

Ezra Westons, Shipbuilders of Duxbury by Gersham Bradford
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THE EZRA WESTONS, SHIPBUILDERS 39

ated from Harvard and traveled in Europe. While in England he became absorbed in the study of forestry, devoting much time to this pursuit. Unlike his father and grandfather, when looking at a great oak he saw only its beauty and grandeur, while they would have calculated the size of keel it would produce.

However, the brothers appear to have been shrewd to the last, for by 1855 the cream had been skimmed from the American shipping industry and it is not surprising that in 1857 the last unit of the once large fleet was liquidated and the Westons, who had contributed so much to the development of the country, passed from the shipping scene and the famous house flag from the seas.

The following list of Weston vessels is incomplete. It has been compiled from the records of the Plymouth and Boston Customhouses, which in themselves are incomplete, and from other sources which have added a few ships to the list. Little information is available as to the vessels owned prior to the establishment of the Customs Service in 1789.

THE WESTON FLEET

Name	Rig	Year	Tons	Where Built
Admittance	brigantine	1802	170	Duxbury
Admittance	ship	1810	—	Kingston
Admittance	ship	1834	427	Duxbury
Angler	schooner	—	—	—
Angola	brig	1832	221	Duxbury
Ardent	schooner	1815	125	Duxbury
Baltic	brig	1821	212	Duxbury
Bramin	ship	1816	245	Duxbury
Camillus	ship	1811	337	Duxbury
Ceres	brig	1828	176	Duxbury
Collector	schooner	1818	91	Duxbury
Columbia	sloop	1799	52	Duxbury
Dispatch	brig	1815	136	Duxbury
Dispatch	brig	1818	124	Duxbury
Dray	schooner	1825	86	Duxbury
Eagle	schooner	1785	63	Duxbury
Eliza Warwick	ship	1836	530	Duxbury
Exchange	schooner	1816	57	Duxbury
Express	schooner	—	—	—
Ezra and Daniel	brig	1805	169	Duxbury
Federal Eagle	brig	1800	141	Duxbury
Fenelon	schooner	1806	109	Duxbury
Flora	schooner	1810	142	Duxbury

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Name	Rig	Year	Tons	Where Built
Franklin	ship	1826	246	Duxbury
Ganges	brig	1826	171	Duxbury
Gershon	brig	1806	112	Duxbury
Globe	brig	1822	215	Duxbury
Golden Grove	brig	1815	135	Duxbury
Herald	brig	1822	162	Duxbury
Hope	ship	1841	881	Duxbury
Jerusha	sloop	—	—	—
Joshua Bates	ship	1831	316	Duxbury
Julian	ship	1828	356	Duxbury
Julius Caesar	ship	1804	310	Haverhill
Lagoda	ship	1826	341	Scituate
Levant	brig	1825	219	Scituate
Lion	brig	1839	235	Duxbury
Magnet	schooner	—	—	—
Malaga	brig	1827	151	Scituate
Manteo	ship	1843	399	Duxbury
Margaret	brig	1820	186	Scituate
Maria	sloop	1801	88	Haverhill
Mattakeesett	ship	1833	481	Duxbury
Messenger	brig	1816	135	Duxbury
Messenger	brig	1834	214	Duxbury
Minerva	ship	1808	224	Duxbury*
Minerva	ship	1834	292	Duxbury
Mirror	schooner	1834	83	—
Neptune	brig	1829	197	Duxbury
Ocean	schooner	—	100	—
Oneco	ship	1829	640	Duxbury
Oriole	brig	1837	218	Duxbury
Pallas	bark	1825	209	Duxbury
Panope	schooner	1820	92	Duxbury
Paulina	brig	1826	219	Duxbury
Phoenix	schooner	1794	54	Duxbury
Pioneer	brig	1824	231	Scituate
Pomona	schooner	1827	85	Duxbury
Prissy	schooner	1789	53	Duxbury
Ranger	schooner	1834	90	Duxbury
Reform	sloop	1830	53	Duxbury
Renown	ship	1830	296	Duxbury
Rising States	schooner	1798	73	Duxbury
Rising Sun	brigantine	1796	141	Duxbury
St. Lawrence	ship	1833	357	Duxbury
St. Michael	schooner	1817	121	Duxbury
Salumith	schooner	1805	79	Duxbury
Seadrift	schooner	1832	90	Duxbury

* Possibly built at Pembroke.

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Name	Rig	Year	Tons	Where Built
<i>Smyrna</i>	brig	1825	163	Marshfield
<i>Smyrna</i>	brig	1839	196	Duxbury
<i>Sophia</i>	schooner	1787	25	Duxbury
<i>Trenton</i>	brig	1836	227	Duxbury
<i>Triton</i>	schooner	1815	52	Duxbury
<i>Two Friends</i>	brig	1819	260	Duxbury
<i>Undine</i>	ship	1831	254	Duxbury
<i>Union</i>	schooner	1803	75	Duxbury
<i>Vandalia</i>	ship	1835	318	Duxbury
<i>Virginia</i>	schooner	1834	73	Duxbury
<i>Volant</i>	schooner	1798	74	Duxbury
<i>Vulture</i>	brig	—	—	—
<i>Volunteer</i>	schooner	1833	109	—
<i>Warren</i>	brig	1809	184	Duxbury

Ships, 20; Bark, 1; Brigs, 28; Brigantines, 2; Schooners, 27; Sloops, 4. Many more whose records have not been found.

Gershom Bradford, our most recent authority on the great sea serpent, has now turned his attentions to one of the eminent shipping families of the little town on the South Shore of Massachusetts Bay where he makes his summer home.